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# U.S. Might Demolish Embassy in Moscow

## 2 Boards to Review Security Worldwide

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President Reagan, saying he was "deeply concerned over the breach of security in our Moscow embassy," said yesterday that he might order the new facility torn down if it could not be protected from Soviet eavesdropping, and he instructed two boards to review security procedures at U.S. embassies throughout the world.

"The United States will not occupy our new embassy building in Moscow unless and until I can be assured that it is safe to move into a secure embassy environment," Reagan told reporters in the White House briefing room. "Likewise, the Soviet Union will not be allowed to occupy their new facility in Washington until a simultaneous move by both countries is possible."

This has been a longstanding U.S. position, but White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said that Reagan's statement was intended to demonstrate "the president's personal involvement and the strength of his conviction that the security question is important and has to be corrected."

The president said he had instructed Secretary of State George P. Shultz to make embassy security "a major agenda item" during his upcoming talks in Moscow with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

But Reagan disagreed with those, including former secretary of state Henry A. Kissinger, who said that Shultz should not be going to Moscow under the current security conditions. "I just don't think it is good for us to be run out of town," Reagan said.

Reagan said he had asked Anne Armstrong, the chairman of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board (PFIB), to examine security procedures and prac-

tices at U.S. embassies around the world and said he also was naming former defense secretary Melvin R. Laird to chair a new panel that will examine State Department procedures and report to Shultz.

The president said that he had asked both Shultz and Armstrong to report to him within 90 days and "to evaluate the condition of our new building and ascertain whether it

will ever be secure, or whether it may be necessary to destroy and rebuild it." Former defense secretary James R. Schlesinger is already investigating security conditions and poor workmanship in construction of the embassy in Moscow.

The new Soviet Embassy on Mount Alto off Wisconsin Avenue was completed in 1985 and its chancery has remained unoccupied although Soviet officials and their families have moved into nearby living quarters. U.S. diplomats and their families also have moved into new living quarters in Moscow that are part of the embassy complex. Frank C. Carlucci, the president's national security adviser, said that the dispute over embassy security will not affect these arrangements.

Reagan's actions occurred in the wake of accusations by congressional and administration counterintelligence advisers that the State Department and Arthur A. Hartman, then U.S. ambassador to Moscow, had for years resisted recommendations that all Soviet nationals working at the embassy be fired despite information that about 50 of

them worked for the KGB, the Soviet security agency.

The administration has been rocked by disclosures of security problems at the embassy, including the alleged seduction of Marine Corps guards by Soviet women employed by the KGB.

State Department spokesman Charles E. Redman said yesterday that Jack F. Matlock Jr., the U.S. ambassador in Moscow, had filed a formal protest accusing the Soviet

Union of "a breach of the norms of diplomatic conduct" by infiltrating the embassy with eavesdropping devices and alleged spies.

Reagan and Carlucci declined to single out Hartman or any other individual for the security problems. State Department officials said that problems also had arisen with the American workers who replaced Soviet nationals after the Soviet government withdrew them from the U.S. Embassy last October.

Redman said that nine of the American contract employees sent to Moscow in the past two months as replacements for Soviet workers "have since come back for a variety of reasons ranging from families that couldn't come over, poor performance on the job and other sorts of difficulties having to do with not being able to adjust to life in Moscow."

Robert E. Lamb, assistant secretary of state for security, said during a White House briefing that these "difficulties" included currency violations and fraternization with the Soviets.

Many diplomats experienced in Soviet affairs long have insisted that security problems at the embassy cannot be resolved by replacing Russian workers with Americans because the closed nature of Soviet society makes it extremely difficult for foreigners to work there efficiently.

The dominant view at the State Department has been that relying on American workers exclusively would only create major new problems because it would be difficult to recruit effective personnel for such a rigorous and unrewarding assignment. Instead, many diplomats contend, the type of workers who could be recruited would tend to be especially vulnerable to sexual or monetary compromise by the Soviets.

Redman said that 27 contract employees hired through a private firm, Pacific Architects and Engineers, are now at work in Moscow. He was unable to say whether the nine who returned were part of the 27 and have been replaced or were in addition to the 27.

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Under its contract with the State Department, the California-based firm is supposed to provide 65 to 80 replacements for the 200 Soviet nationals who were withdrawn. The American replacements have filled a number of jobs, ranging from plumbers and heating technicians to clerks and drivers. A spokesman for Pacific Architects said some have academic backgrounds in Soviet studies.

The firm has said that some of those who signed up for two-year hitchhes were students who wanted to improve their Russian or to gain firsthand knowledge of the Soviet Union.

Meanwhile, a military magistrate yesterday ordered Staff Sgt. Robert S. Stufflebeam released from pre-trial confinement at Quantico Marine Base where he was being held on suspicion of failing to report contacts with Soviet women while working as a guard at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow and later misleading officials about the contacts.

Although no charges have been filed against Stufflebeam, 24, the third Marine at the embassy to be implicated in potential security breaches, he is "still considered a suspect" for violating the two security regulations, Defense Department spokesman Robert B. Sims said. Stufflebeam, deputy commander of the Marine guard unit at the embassy, is required to remain at Quantico for questioning and is being restricted to his company office, living quarters, the mess hall or the convenience store on base, Sims said.

Stufflebeam is suspected of having associations with Soviet women on several occasions while working as a guard supervisor at the embassy. He is not suspected of espionage, Pentagon officials said.

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*Staff writers John M. Goshko and Molly Moore contributed to this report.*